

PIERRE CAZELAR—LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF.

[To accompany bill S. 335.]

JANUARY 30, 1857.

Mr. SANDIDGE, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made the following

REPORT.

The committee of the House on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred Senate bill 335, for the relief of the heirs and legal representatives of Pierre Cazelar, deceased, agreeing fully to the report made by the Senate's committee, adopt it as their own, and ask that the bill be passed by the House.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, *May 23, 1856.*

Mr. BENJAMIN made the following report, (to accompany bill S. 335.)

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to which was referred the papers relative to the private land claim of the legal representatives of Pierre Cazelar, have had the same under consideration and submit the following report:

The committee find a report on this claim, submitted to the Senate from the Committee on Private Land Claims, on the 17th of February, 1855, which is as follows:

"From the papers in this case it appears that as early as 1764 these lands were in cultivation by a Mr. Carriere; that the orphans' court of the then Territory of Orleans, prior to 1764, had put the said Carriere into possession of the plantation in question as the heir-at-law of his parents, then deceased; that the said Carriere, on July 14, 1764, as appears from a deed duly certified, &c., conveyed his right to S. Decalogne, who, on March 30, 1784, conveyed his right to the plantation to Thomas Porée; that the said Porée, by deed dated April 18, 1806, conveyed the plantation in question to William Flood; that the heirs and legal representatives of the said Flood, then deceased, on April 12, 1854, conveyed by deed all the right, title, and interest to the plantation in question to Pierre Cazelar, who has since deceased. Thus, from the papers, it appears that the heirs of Pierre Cazelar, deceased, and those under whom

they claim, have been in possession and have cultivated the said plantation from the year 1764 to June 24, 1854, the filing of their petition, a period of ninety years. That the claimants, at the time of the appointment of commissioners to adjust private land claims in Louisiana, did not file their claim before the commissioners, believing they then possessed a legal title to the land. Your committee are fully of the opinion that, had this claim been submitted to the commissioners, they would have recommended it for confirmation, upon the papers now before them. Your committee do not hesitate to say that this is one of the most meritorious cases that has been presented to them."

The committee endorse to the fullest extent the report above set forth, and are unanimously of the opinion that justice and good faith alike demand that these lands, possessed and cultivated for ninety years by the claimants, or those under whom they claim, should be confirmed; they have therefore directed me to report the accompanying bill, and respectfully recommend its passage.